

REMARKS

Applicant has now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action of October 26, 2006.

Reconsideration of the Application is requested.

The Office Action

Claims 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101.

Claims 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite.

Claims 1-7 and 9-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Fletcher (U.S. Patent No. 5,537,558).

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Fletcher (U.S. Patent No. 5,537,558) in view of Fischer (U.S. Patent No. 5,845,139)

Claims 3, 12-13, and 15-16 are cancelled.

Claims 1-2, 4-11, 14, and 17-25 remain in the application.

Interview with Examiner

Applicant gratefully acknowledges an opportunity given by the Examiner to meet for an interview on March 20, 2007. Applicant discussed with the Examiner the present application and applied prior art Fletcher (U.S. Patent No. 5,537,558). As a result of the Interview, it is Applicant's understanding that the claims be amended to include the language indicating that the communication device is configured dynamically and in real-time to communicate using at least two communication protocols simultaneously would overcome rejection over Fletcher.

Amendments to the Specification

The **Specification** has been amended to alleviate minor mistakes. It is respectfully submitted

that amendments to the specification do not represent any new subject matter.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 18-20 have been amended to alleviate the 101 and 112 rejections. It is respectfully requested that these grounds of rejections of **claims 18-20** be withdrawn.

Claims Distinguish over Cited Prior Art

Claim 1 calls for among other elements: a communication device which comprises software to dynamically, in real time configure the communication device to communicate using the first and second communication protocols. Fletcher describes a communication device configured to couple external devices, which communicate using LAN and RS-232, to a host computer. The communication device is preconfigured and includes LAN and RS-232 connectors. Therefore, Fletcher is restricted to the preconfigured protocols and preinstalled physical devices. Fletcher does not describe or suggest configuring the protocols dynamically, on the fly, depending on the type of the external device. Moreover, Fletcher, by describing the physically mounted LAN and RS-232 connectors, clearly does not describe or suggest an adaptive interface which would recognize and support the communication protocol configured on the fly. In contrast, claim 1 calls for dynamical configuration of the protocols, and adaptive coupling through the communication interfaces to the common platform depending on the type of the external device(s). It is therefore respectfully submitted that **claim 1 and dependent claims 2 and 4** distinguish patentably and unobviously over Fletcher.

Claim 5 calls for among other elements: the communication device which includes software which dynamically, in real time configures the communication device to communicate using the respective external device communication protocol. The arguments above in relation to claim 1 are equally applicable here. It is therefore respectfully submitted that **claim 5 and dependent claims 6-11** distinguish patentably and unobviously over Fletcher.

Claim 14 calls for among other elements: dynamically, in real time configuring the communication device to communicate using the first and second communication protocols. The arguments above in relation to claim 1 are equally applicable here. It is therefore respectfully submitted that **claim 14 and dependent claim 17** distinguish patentably and unobviously over Fletcher.

Claim 18 calls for among other elements: dynamically, in real time configuring said processor to communicate using first and second communication protocols simultaneously. The arguments above in relation to claim 1 are equally applicable here. It is therefore respectfully submitted that **claim 18 and dependent claims 19-20** distinguish patentably and unobviously over Fletcher.

New dependent claims 21-25 have been added to alternatively claim some aspects of the Applicant's concepts.

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CONCLUSION

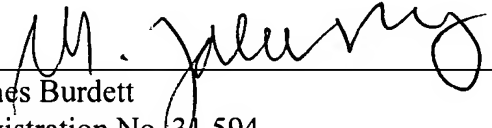
For at least the reasons detailed above, it is submitted that all claims remaining in the application (**Claims 1-2, 4-11, 14, and 17-25**) are in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

The undersigned attorney of record hereby authorizes charging any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

If the Examiner finds a personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to call Marina Zalevsky at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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